
**Information security — Criteria and
methodology for security evaluation
of biometric systems —**

**Part 1:
Framework**

*Sécurité de l'information — Critères et méthodologie pour
l'évaluation de la sécurité des systèmes biométriques —
Partie 1: Cadre*

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Published in Switzerland

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Foreword

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The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 27, *Information security, cybersecurity and privacy protection*.

A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC 19989 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

Biometric systems can be vulnerable to presentation attacks where attackers attempt to subvert the system security policy by presenting their natural biometric characteristics or artefacts holding copied or faked characteristics. Presentation attacks can occur during enrolment or identification/verification events. Techniques designed to detect presentation artefacts are generally different from those to counter attacks where natural characteristics are used. Defence against presentation attacks with natural characteristics typically relies on the ability of a biometric system to discriminate between genuine enrollees and attackers based on the differences between their natural biometric characteristics. This ability is characterized by the biometric recognition performance of the system. Biometric recognition performance and presentation attack detection have a bearing on the security of biometric systems. Hence, the evaluation of these aspects of performance from a security viewpoint will become important considerations for the procurement of biometric products and systems.

Biometric products and systems share many of the properties of other IT products and systems which are amenable to security evaluation using the ISO/IEC 15408 series and ISO/IEC 18045 in the standard way. However, biometric systems embody certain functionality that needs specialized evaluation criteria and methodology which is not addressed by the ISO/IEC 15408 series and ISO/IEC 18045. Mainly these relate to the evaluation of biometric recognition and presentation attack detection. These are the functions addressed in the ISO/IEC 19989 series.

ISO/IEC 19792 describes these biometric-specific aspects and specifies principles to be considered during the security evaluation of biometric systems. However, it does not specify the concrete criteria and methodology that are needed for security evaluation based on the ISO/IEC 15408 series.

The ISO/IEC 19989 series provides a bridge between the evaluation principles for biometric products and systems defined in ISO/IEC 19792 and the criteria and methodology requirements for security evaluation based on the ISO/IEC 15408 series. The ISO/IEC 19989 series supplements the ISO/IEC 15408 series and ISO/IEC 18045 by providing extended security functional components together with supplementary activities related to these requirements. The extensions to the requirements and supplementary activities found in the ISO/IEC 15408 series and ISO/IEC 18045 relate to the evaluation of biometric recognition and presentation attack detection which are particular to biometric systems.

<https://www.iso.org/standard/72411.html> This document consists of the introduction of the general framework for the security evaluation of biometric systems, including extended security functional components, and supplementary methodology and evaluation activities for the evaluator. The detailed recommendations are developed for biometric recognition aspects in ISO/IEC 19989-2 and for presentation attack detection aspects in ISO/IEC 19989-3.

In this document, the term "user" is used to mean the term "capture subject" used in biometrics.